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# LETTER

FROM

## South Carolina;

GIVING AN

## ACCOUNT

OF THE

*Soil, Air, Product, Trade, Govern-  
ment, Laws, Religion, People, Mili-  
tary Strength, &c. of that Province;*

Together with the Manner and necessary  
Charges of **SETTLING** a **PLANTATION**  
there, and the *Annual Profit* it will produce.

---

*Written by a Swiss Gentleman, to his Friend at Bern.*

---

L O N D O N,

Printed for *A. Baldwin*, near the *Oxford-  
Arms* in *Warwick-lane*. 1710.

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S I R,

**B**Y the last Letters from you, which I had the Honour to receive, you was pleas'd to acquaint me with the Intention of some worthy Gentlemen of *Bern*, to settle a Fund for transporting annually a few Supernumeraries of our Nation, to the Province of *Carolina*; a Design both truly pious and generous, which at the same time consults the Interest of Religion, and the Civil Benefit of Mankind. How much better is it for those who have but a small Subsistence at home, to retire to a Place where they may with moderate Industry be supplied with all the Necessaries of Life, than to follow the miserable Trade of Destroying for a Shilling a Day? How much better for Men to improve their own Lands, for the Use of themselves, and Posterity; to sit under their own Vine, and eat the Fruits of their Labour; than to be Instruments in the Hands of Tyrants, to ravage and depopulate the Earth, and that only to procure a poor Maintenance, and for

which there must hereafter be render'd a strict and severe Account?

Since I have been settled here, and for some time enjoyed the many Pleasures and Delights of a quiet peaceable Life, I have often reflected on the unhappy Condition of the Military Employment, which I exchanged for this wherewith I am now blessed. What constant Troubles, Dangers and Fatigues attend it! How deplorable is it to behold the daily Ravages we are oblig'd to make! Who would not be mov'd with the Tears and Lamentations of the miserable? A free People, surrounded with potent Neighbours, must indeed and ought to be brave, and military, perfectly vers'd in Arms, either for their own Defence, or to assist their injur'd Allies. Nor is there any Name more great and noble than that of a Soldier; but then he must be one, who, like the Ancient Heroes, makes it his Business to destroy Monsters, assist the Impotent, redress Injuries, oppose Tyranny, and root out Oppression from the Face of the Earth. But to follow War meerly as a Trade, to hire oneself to the best Bidder, without Respect to the Merits of the Cause, is what I can never reconcile to the Principles either of revealed, or natural Religion: For this seems to be the perfect Reverse

Reverse of doing as we would be done by. And what shocks me most of all is, that some People devote their Children to the Wars before, or at least as soon as they are born. This seems to me rather worse, if possible, than the old heathenish Custom of sacrificing them to appease the Wrath of some angry God, for then the Mischief ended with the Lives of some few unfortunate Victims; but we sacrifice ours to a devouring Deity, who together with their own Deaths makes them the Occasion of that of many Innocents. And what renders these things more inexcusable is, that 'tis plain, Mankind is not reduc'd to the unhappy Necessity of Killing one another for Bread; since upon a due Calculation, the Earth is so far from being overstock'd with People, that 'tis capable of containing ten times the Number of its present Inhabitants. What vast and goodly Countries are there in the World, wholly, or for the most part unpeopled, and yet very capable of producing all things both for the Necessity and Conveniency of Life? An Instance of which is this Province, whereof since you are pleas'd to desire some Account from me, I shall, without any Apology, proceed to obey your Commands, and in as small a compass as possible, give you a View of such

A 3

Things

Things as are necessary to be known, by one who designs to settle there, to which I shall principally confine my Discourse.

*Descrip-  
tion.*

*Carolina* is a Province of the *English America*, joining on the North-East to *Virginia*, between 36 and 29 Degrees North Latitude. It is divided into two Governments, commonly call'd *North* and *South Carolina*. *North Carolina* joins to *Virginia*, and that Part thereof now inhabited by the *English*, lies between 35 and 36 Degrees N. Latitude. The Parts of *South Carolina*, now possess'd by the *English*, lie between 32 and 33 Degrees N. Latitude, and about 60 Degrees Longitude, West from the Lands-End of *England*.

Between the same Parallels with *South Carolina*, lie some of the most fertile Countries in the World, as some Parts of the Coast of *Barbary*, all the middle Part of *China*, from the middle to the South Parts of *Japan*, those Countries of *India* about *Lahore*, the best part of *Persia*, *Egypt* and *Syria*.

*Situation.*

*Carolina* is in general a plain champaign Country, having no considerable Hills for the Space of 1000 Miles together along the Coast, within 100 Miles of the Sea. There are, however, almost every where, Risings or gentle Ascents, from 5 Foot to 50, 60, or 70, above

above the Level of the highest Tide.

Behind these vast champain Countries lies a high Ridge of Mountains, which beginning in the Lat. of 34, 90 or 100 Miles to the Eastward of the *Mississipi*, run almost parallel with the Sea-coast, behind all *Florida*, both the *Carolinas*, *Virginia* and *Maryland*. The most common and usual Distance from the Foot of the Mountains to the Sea, is about 200 Miles. The Springs and Fountains of most of our great Rivers are in these Hills, which abound with innumerable Rivulets, and these meeting afterwards together, form many large Rivers; by the Course of which it appears, that the Land has a gradual, tho' insensible Descent from the Mountains to the Sea.

This great Plain is one continued Fo- *Trees.*  
rest, well stock'd with Oaks of several Kinds, Chesnut, Walnut, Hickery; several Kinds of Firr, Cypress of two Kinds, Cedar, Poplar, or the Tulip-tree, Laurel, Bay, Myrtle, Hasel, Beech, Ash, Elm, and Variety of others, whose Names are scarce known.

The Sea-coast is full of Islands, Sounds, Bays, Marshes, Rivers, and Creeks of Salt-Water, where the Tide useth to rise from 5 Foot to 7, seldom higher. These are well stor'd with great *Fish.*  
Variety of excellent Fish, the most common whereof are Bass, Drum, Whi-  
tings,

tings, Trouts, Herrings, Mulletts, Rocks, Sturgeons, Shads, Sheepheads, Place, Flounders, small Turtle, Crabs, Oysters, Muscles, Cockles, Shrimps, &c. Such Fish that are common and not eaten, are Whales, Grampoises, Porpoises, Sharks, Dog-fish, Garb, Stingrays, Saw-fish, Fidlers, and Periwinkles.

This Province is capable of containing above 60 times the Number of its present Inhabitants; and there is no Place in the Continent of *America*, where People can transport themselves to greater Advantage.

South  
Carolina.

Now as *South Carolina* far excells the other in Improvements and navigable Rivers, I shall confine my Discourse to that, and acquaint you with its Product, Trade, Government, People, Laws, and lastly, with an Account of what is necessary to settle a Man comfortably there.

Product.

Besides the Things already mention'd, *South Carolina* naturally produces Black Mulberries, Walnuts, Chesnuts, Chinapines, which is a small Chesnut, and five or six Kinds of Acorns, all which the *Indians*, like the Primitive Race of Mankind, make Use of for Food; wild Potatoes, and several other eatable Roots, wild Plums, Variety of Grapes, Medlars, Huckle-berries, Strawberries, Hasel-nuts, Myrtle-berries, of which Wax is made; also Cedar-berries, Su-  
mach,



mach, Sassafras, China-Root, great and small Snake-root, with Variety of other Physical Roots and Herbs, and many Flowers, which spring up of themselves, and flourish in their Kind, every Season of the Year.

Many things have likewise been transplanted hither, which thrive very well with us, as White Mulberries, Grapes from the *Maderas*, and elsewhere; all Kinds of *English* Garden-herbs, six or seven Sorts of Potatoes, all of them very good; *Indian* Corn three Sorts, *Indian* Pease five or six Kinds, *Indian* Beans several Kinds, Kidney-beans, *French* Beans, Pompions, Squashes, Gourds, Pomelons, Cucumbers, Muskmelons, Water-melons, Tobacco, Rice three or four Sorts, Oats, Rye, Barley, and some Wheat, tho' not much.

Our Fruits are Apples, Pears, Quinces, Figs three or four Kinds, Oranges, Pomegranates, Peaches fourteen or fifteen Sorts. *Fruits  
planted.*

Tho' we have as great Variety of good Peaches as any Place, perhaps, in the World, yet the principal Use made of them is to feed Hogs, for which End, large Orchards are planted. The Peach-trees with us are all Standards; they yield Fruit in three Years from the Stone, the fourth Year bear plentifully, and the fifth are large spreading Trees.

Most

Most Kinds of *British* Fruits prosper best up in the Country, at some Distance from Salt Water; but Figs, Peaches, Pomegranates and the like, grow best nigh the Sea.

*Seasons of Sowing.*

Our Season of Sowing is from the first of *March* to the tenth of *June*. The principal Seed-time of Rice, from the first of *April* to the twentieth of *May*; of *Indian* Corn, Pease and Beans, the last Week of *March*, all *April*, *May*, and the first ten Days of *June*. In *March* and *April* we set Potatoes, Pompions, Cucumbers, Melons, Kidney-beans, &c.

The usual Produce of an Acre of *Indian* Corn, is from 18 to 30 Bushels, and 6 Bushels of *Indian* Pease, which run like a Vine among the Corn: About a Gallon of *Indian* Corn sows an Acre.

Rice is sowed in Furrows, about 18 Inches distant, a Peck usually sows an Acre, which yields seldom less than 30 Bushels, or more than 60, but betwixt these two, as the Land is either better or worse.

*Harvest.*

Rice is reap'd in *September*, to the eighth of *October*; *Indian* Corn and Pease from the first of *October* to the tenth of *November*: Several Kinds of Pulse are ripe in *May* and *June*.

*Ripe Fruits.*

We have Pompions, Melons, Cucumbers, Squashes, and other Vine-Fruits, which ripen, and are eat all the Summer,

Summer, from the middle of *June* to the first of *October*. Fig-trees bear two Crops a Year, one ripe at the End of *June*, the other all *August*. By so great Variety of Peaches, Melocotons, and Nectarines, there is this Advantage, that we have them in Season from the 20th of *June* to the End of *September*, for during all that Time, one Kind or another of them is in Perfection.

Rice is clean'd by Mills, turned with Oxen or Horses. 'Tis very much sow'd here, not only because it is a vendible Commodity, but thriving best in low moist Lands, it inclines People to improve that Sort of Ground, which being planted a few Years with Rice, and then laid by, turns to the best Pasture.

Silk-worms with us are hatch'd from the Eggs about the 6th of *March*, Nature having wisely ordain'd them to enter into this new Form of Being, at the same time that the Mulberry-Leaves, which are their Food, begin to open. Being attended and fed six Weeks, they eat no more, but have small Bushes set up for them to spin themselves into Balls, which thrown into warm Water, are wound off into raw Silk. Silk-Worms.

Resin, Tar and Pitch are all produc'd from the Pine-trees; Resin, by cutting Channels in the standing green Trees, that meet in a Point at the Foot of the Tree, Resin.

Tree, where two or three small Pieces of Board are fitted to receive it. The Channels are cut as high as one can reach with an Axe, and the Bark is peeled off from all those Parts of the Tree that are expos'd to the Sun, that the Heat of it may the more easily force out the Turpentine, which falling upon the Boards placed at the Root, is gather'd and laid in Heaps, which melted in great Kettles, becomes Rosin.

*To.*

Tar is made thus : First they prepare a circular Floor of Clay, declining a little towards the Center, from which is laid a Pipe of Wood, whose upper Part is even with the Floor, and reaches 2 Foot without the Circumference ; under this End the Earth is dug away, and Barrels placed to receive the Tar as it runs. Upon the Floor is built up a large Pile of dry Pine-wood, split in Pieces, and surrounded with a Wall of Earth, which covers it all over, only a little at the Top, where the Fire is first kindled. After the Fire begins to burn, they cover that likewise with Earth, to the End there may be no Flame, but only Heat sufficient to force the Tar downward into the Floor. They temper the Heat as they please, by thrusting a Stick through the Earth, and letting the Air in at as many Places as they see convenient.

Pitch

Pitch is made either by boiling Tar *Pitch* in large Iron Kettles, set in Furnaces, or by burning it in round Clay-holes, made in the Earth.

Besides the various Sorts of Food pro-*Cattle*duc'd by the Earth, *South Carolina* abounds with black Cattle, to a Degree much beyond any other *English* Colony; which is chiefly owing to the Mildness of the Winter, whereby the Planters are freed from the Trouble of providing for them, suffering them to feed all Winter in the Woods. These Creatures have mightily increas'd since the first settling of the Colony, about 40 Years ago. It was then reckon'd a great deal to have three or four Cows, but now some People have 1000 Head, but for one Man to have 200 is very common.

We have likewise Hogs in abundance, *Hogs, &c.* which go daily to feed in the Woods, and come home at Night; also some Sheep, and Goats.

There are tame Fowls of all Sorts, *Tame and wild Fowl* and great Variety of wild Fowl, as Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, wild Pidgeons, Partridges, Brants, Sheldrakes, Teal; and near the Sea, Curlews, Cranes, Herons, Snipes, Pellicanes, Gannets, Sea-Larks, and many others.

The wild Beasts, which the Woods af-*Wild*ford for Game, are Rabbits, Foxes, Ra-*Beasts*coons, Possums, Squirrels, wild Cats, Deer, Elks,

Elks, Buffaloes, Bears, Tygers, wild Kine and Hogs. Tho' the Names of some of these Creatures are frightful to those who never saw them, yet they are not so to us, for there is none of them, but will fly from a Man; nor do they any Injury, but to Sheep, Hogs, and young Calves.

*Air.*

The Air of *Carolina* is generally very clear and fine, even when the greatest Rains fall, the Weather does not continue long cloudy, for the Sun soon dissipates the Fogs, and restores the Air to its usual Serenity. During the Heat of Summer, the Rains are very refreshing and agreeable, and the Thunder that accompanies them, tho' naturally terrifying, is welcome upon Account of its rarifying the Air. Earthquakes have never yet been known, or heard of in this Country.

*Temperature of the Months.*

The Heats of *Carolina* are indeed troublesome to Strangers in *June, July,* and *August*, in which Months are smart Claps of Thunder, tho' seldom doing any Prejudice. But the Inconveniency from the Heat during that Time, is made easie by shady Groves, open airy Rooms, Arbours and Summer-houses; and to make some amends for it, no Country can afford pleasanter Weather, in the Spring, Fall, and greatest Part of Winter. *September, October, November,* are pleasant dry Months, neither hot  
nor

nor cold. *December* and *January* are moderately cold, sometimes accompanied with sharp cold North-West Winds, and Frost, which seldom last above two or three Days at a time. There is scarce ever any Snow, or if it does fall, it lies not above one Night. *February* and *March* are pleasant, fair, dry Months, answering in Temperature to *April* and *May* in *England*, which with us are very agreeable Months, the Weather being then clear and fair, refreshed with gentle Showers once in eight or ten Days, but equal in Heat to *June* and *July* in *England*.

The Trade between *South Carolina* <sup>Trade.</sup> and *Great Britain*, does, one Year with another, employ 22 Sail of Ships, laden hither with all Sorts of Woollen Cloaths, Stuffs and Druggets, Linnens, Hollands, printed Linnen and Callicoe, Silks and Muslins, Nails of all sizes, Hoes, Hatchets, and all Kinds of Iron-ware, Bed-ticks, strong Beer, bottled Syder, Raisins, fine Earthen-ware, Pipes, Paper, Rugs, Blankets, Quilts, Hats from 2 s. to 12 s. Price, Stockings from 1 s. to 8 s. Price, Gloves, Pewter Dishes and Plates, Brass and Copper Ware, Guns, Powder, Bullets, Flints, Glass Beads, Cordage, Woollen and Cotten Cards, Steel Hand-mills, Grind-stones, Looking and Drinking Glasses, Lace, Thread  
course

course and fine, Mohair, and all Kinds of Trimming for Cloaths, Pins, Needles, &c. In return for which are remitted from hence about seventy Thousand Deer-skins a Year, some Furs, Rosin, Pitch, Tar, Raw Silk, Rice, and formerly Indigo. But since all these don't balance the continual Demand of *European* Goods, and Negro Slaves, sent us by the *English* Merchants, there is likewise sent to *England*, some Cocoa-nuts, Sugar, Tortoise-shell, Money, and other Things, which we have from the *American* Islands, in return for our Provisions. Besides the 22 Sail above-mention'd, there enter and clear annually at the Port of *Charlestown*, about 60 Sail of Ships, Sloops, and Brigantines, all from some Places of *Africa* or *America*.

From *Jamaica*, *St. Thomas's*, *Curraffo*, *Barbadoes*, and the *Leward* Islands, we have Sugar, Rum, Molosses, Cotton, Chocolate made up, Coco-nuts, Negroes, and Mony. In return whereof we send Beef, Pork, Butter, Candles, Soap, Tallow, Myrtle-wax Candles, Rice, some Pitch and Tar, Cedar and Pine-boards, Shingles, Hoop-staves, and Heads for Barrels.

From *New-England*, *New-York*, and *Pensylvania*, we have Wheat flower, Bisket, strong Beer, Cyder, salt Fish, Onions, Apples, Hops; and return them



them tan'd Hides, small Deer-skins, Gloves, Rice, Slaves taken by the *Indians* in War, some Tar and Pitch.

From *Madera* and the Western Islands, we have Wine, and in return, supply them with Provisions, Staves, and Heads for Barrels, &c. Our Salt comes from the *Bahama* Islands.

From *Guinea*, and other Parts of the Coast of *Africa*, are imported Negroe-Slaves ; but the Ships that bring them being sent, with the Effects to purchase them, from *England*, the Returns are sent thither.

In vain would all the Advantages of a fine Air, fruitful Soil, and good Trade, be to us, if not encouraged to improve them by a good Government and Laws. Even your Mountains are preferable to *Lombardy* itself, if one must there be subject to the Caprice and absolute Pleasure of a *French* Intendant. But this Colony was founded upon the generous Principles of civil and religious Liberty, on which noble Foundation it hath been raised to its present Height. And because it is a received Maxim, That all Things prosper best by the Use of the same Means, whereby they were first formed, the People have not been wanting to secure these valuable Priviledges, the Assemblies, from time to time, having passed Laws

Govern<sup>ment</sup>  
ment.

to transmit these Blessings to Posterity, as fully and largely as we enjoy them at present; so that the civil Rights of *Englishmen*, together with a just, impartial, and intire Liberty of Conscience, are as firmly secured to the Inhabitants of this Province, as Acts of the general Assembly can make them.

The known Laws among us are the Measure and Bounds of Power. The highest in Authority cannot legally oppress or insult the meanest. Fines, Imprisonments, Death, or other Punishments, are not left to the arbitrary Decisions of the Governours and Judges, but are nicely and particularly prescribed by the Laws. Those who are intrusted with the Executive Part of the Government, are obliged to know their Bounds; so far they may go and no further. It is not here as in those Countries where Slavery is fixed, and struggling with the Chains rivets them the faster. But Liberty is so well and legally established, that whatever Mismanagements may be occasion'd from those who have the Administration, while a Sense of Freedom remains, the Vigour of the Constitution will throw off these politick Diseases, and restore the Publick to a State of Health.

The Foundation of this Government is a Charter granted by King *Charles II.*

to

to eight Proprietors, which, together with a Title to the Land, gives them ample Priviledges and Jurisdctions, particularly all such as are any way necessary, to the forming or well ordering a Body politick; reserving always an Allegiance to the Crown of *England*, and to the People who shall settle in *Carolina*, all Rights, Liberties and Franchises of *Englishmen*. By which express Limitation in behalf of his Subjects, the King put it out of their Lordships Power to lay any Hardships upon them, contrary to the Laws of *England*.

This Province is at present in the Hands of the Right Honourable *William Lord Craven*, Palatine, the Most Noble *Henry Duke of Beaufort*, the Right Honourable Lord *Carteret*, Sir *John Colleton*, *Maurice Ashly Esq*, Mr. *John Danson*, and Mr. *Blake*, a Minor. The Power of the Palatine is considerable, for he hath a Negative in all Orders or Decisions of the whole Board; neither can the other Proprietors hold a Board without he be present, or one delegated to act for him. He cannot, however, enact any thing without the Concurrence of four Proprietors, besides himself. The same Place that the Palatine hath at the Board of Proprietors in *England*, the Governour hath in *Carolina*, besides the Power granted him by Commission.

Governour.  
and Coun-  
cil.

The Governour calls and presides in all Councils of State, which consist of the eight Proprietor's Deputies. With the Assent of four Deputies, he calls, prorogues, or dissolves, the general Assemblies; appoints Civil Officers, such as Justices of the Peace. He assents to, or dissents from Laws, hath a negative Voice in all Acts, Orders, or Ordinances of the general Assemblies; he alone commissionates all military Officers, and disposes of the Militia according to Law, for Defence of the Colony. He bears the Title of Governour, Captain-General, and Admiral, of *South and North Carolina*.

In all Affairs, except those that are military, every Counsellour hath an equal Vote with the Governour, and he can do nothing without the Concurrence of four of them at least.

While the Parliament sits, the Governour, with the other seven Deputies, make the upper House, in the Intervals of Parliament, they are the Council of State and Court of Chancery.

The Governour of *South Carolina* is appointed by Commission, sign'd by the Palatine, and at least four more of the Lords Proprietors, during Pleasure. Each Member of the Council hath a Deputation from one or other of the Proprietors, whom he represents. Upon  
the

the Death or Resignation of any Member of the Council, the Vacancy is filled by the Votes of the Majority of those who remain : And upon the Death of any Governour, one of the Proprietors Deputies is elected Governour by the rest, and continues so till their Lordships send another from *England*, or a new Commission to some other Person.

The Form of Government is as nigh *General Assemblies* as conveniently can be to that of *England*. The Legislature consists of two Chambers, the upper, which is compos'd of the eight Proprietors Deputies; and the lower of thirty Representatives, chosen by the People. By Law, the Governour is obliged to call an Assembly every two Years.

The general Assemblies are call'd by Writs, issued out of the Secretaries Office, under the Seal of the Colony, and Test of the Governour : These are directed to the Sheriff of each County, bearing Date forty Days before the Return, and he is to take Care that they be duly published.

The first Business of the Commons is to choose a Speaker, which being done, they present him to the Governour in a full House, who approves him; then they return to their own House, and proceed to do Business, choosing Committees, and in all other Respects imitating the

House of Commons in *England*, as high as possible.

The lower House seldom passes Imposition-Acts for any time above two Years; and the Reason is, That themselves may be always necessary, and retain that Power they have by Law, and preserve the just Ballance of the Government: They likewise claim all the Powers, Priviledges, and Immunities, which the House of Commons have in *Great Britain*.

They appoint the publick Treasurer, call him to an Account, and dismiss him, when they see fit, by a Vote of their House. For 'tis a received Opinion among them, that the Power of appointing, examining, censuring, and displacing those who have the public Money in their Hands, is much better lodg'd in the House of Commons, who have so great an Interest in the Colony, than in the Hands of any Governour, for Reasons generally known in *America*.

The lower House likewise presents to the Governour all Persons, who are to receive his Commissions, and have any Salary out of the publick Treasury, such as Captains of Forts, and the like. The Governour, it is true, hath the Power of granting Commissions to these and other Officers, but then the Treasurer cannot

cannot pay them any Salary, unless they have been first recommended by the House of Commons.

All Bills generally begin, and are form'd in the House of Commons, but no Act, Order, or Ordinance, is of any Force, without having passed both Houses in due Parliamentary Form. All Bills are read three several Times on three several Days, in each House, before they can pass into a Law.

The Method of ratifying Laws is this ; After a Bill or Bills have passed both Houses, in due Form, the Clerk of the lower House is order'd to engross them, upon fair Paper or Vellum. The Speaker, with the whole House, attend the Governour in the upper House, and present the Bills ; then the Governour reads the Title, signs and seals the Bill, and says, *In the Name of his Excellency, William Lord Craven, Palatine, I Ratify and Confirm this Law.* Every one of the other Deputies do and say the like, each in the Name of his Principal. After a Bill is thus ratified, sign'd and seal'd by the Governour and four Deputies, it is then proclaim'd and held for Law.

Neither the Members of the Council, nor the House of Commons, in this Province, have any Allowance for attending the publick Service, but do it at their own Expences. B 4 The

The Laws of *South Carolina* are either Acts of our own general Assemblies, or the Statute or Common Law of *England*. It is taken for granted with us, that no *English* Laws bind the Plantations, except such as particularly mention them, till they are put in Force by Act of Assembly, in each particular Province.

Because Promulgation is in a manner absolutely necessary to render any Law obligatory, the general Assembly first peruse all *English* Acts of Parliament, draw up an Account of as many intire ones, and Parts of others, as are fit for this Province, and by an Act of Assembly mentioning these Acts, they put them in Force. Thus we have Schedules of such *English* Acts of Parliament made Law, beginning with the great Charter of *England*, and running thro' all the Statutes, down to those made in the Reign of her present Majesty. And this is held to be the most rational Method, both for distinguishing such *English* Laws as are not proper for this Colony, and for promulgating them that are.

By an Act of Assembly, the Common Law of *England* is ordain'd to be of Force here, in Cases not provided for by the Statutes of this Province; with this Exception, nevertheless, that  
nothing



nothing of a Religious or Ecclesiastical Nature, tho' practised in *England*, by the Common Law, shall be of any Force in *South Carolina*.

By the Laws of this Colony, the Governour alone, the Chief Justice alone, any two of the Council, or two Justices of the Peace, have the same Power of granting Writs of *Habeas Corpus*, as the Justices of either Bench have in *England*, and are under the same Penalties in case of Neglect or Refusal.

Tho' it is Commendation sufficient for our Laws, to say they are as high to those of *England*, as conveniently may be, yet we have in several things refin'd upon the *English* Laws. For Instance: The Jurors are not here return'd by the Sheriffs, but the Names of all the best qualified Persons in the County are agreed upon and settled by Act of Assembly, and put together into a Ballot-box. At the End of every Court this is set upon the Table, before the Judge and Bench, and after it is shaken, a little Child draws out 48 Names, which are read, and a List of them taken by the Sheriff, that he may know whom to summons. These 48 are put in the second Division of the Ballot-box, out of which, at the opening of the next Court, another Child draws 12, who are to serve as Jurors, and if any just  
Exception

Exception be made, he draws others, until the Jury be full. The same Method, with little Alteration, is taken in returning Juries for the Sessions of the Peace. The Names of those who have served are put in the third Division of the Box, where they lie till those in the first Division are almost all drawn, and then they are again put into this. The Reason of their lying in the third Division is, because one Set of Persons should not be too much burthen'd, but that all should have an equal Share of the Trouble, as nigh as may be.

The Ballot-box hath three Locks; and Keys, kept by three several Persons appointed by the general Assembly, whereof the Judge of the Court is one; neither can the Box be opened without the Presence of those three.

The Reason of all this Precaution in returning Jurors is, for the better and more effectual Preservation of the Lives and Estates of the Inhabitants. For the Sheriffs, Marshals, and all other such Officers, being appointed by the Governor, and keeping their Places only during his Pleasure, if the returning of Juries lay in their Power, 'tis more than probable, they might at some time or other, pack such Instruments as would be ready to gratify him, to the Ruin of any Person against whom he had conceiv'd

ceiv'd Malice or Displeasure. Considering therefore, how easily frivolous and unjust Prosecutions are set on foot, and Evidences fit for any Turn may be procur'd, nothing can be a greater Security than this noble Law ; for after all the Arts and Management betwixt a bad Governour, Judge, and Attorney General, to carry on an illegal Prosecution, the whole Contrivance is at last spoiled by the Impossibility of Packing a Jury for the Purpose.

Our Legislators have wisely consider'd the Frailty and Passions of Men, how difficult it is for those in Power to keep themselves within Bounds, and how inclin'd they are to Resentment ; for which Reason, tho' they never endeavoured to abridge their Governour's Power of doing Good, yet, by this and other Methods, they have aimed at leaving them as few Opportunities of doing Hurt as is possible.

For Administration of Justice, Courts of Common-Pleas are held quarterly, by a Chief Justice and some Assistants. No Cause less than forty Shillings can be brought before this Court ; all under that Sum are determin'd in an expeditious Manner, by a Justice of the Peace.

There is no other Court superiour to this but the Chancery, of which the Governour is Chief Judge, and the other

ther Counsellours his Assistants. All Appeals from the Common-Pleas are finally determin'd in Chancery, and from thence are issued out Exhibitions and Superfedeas's to inferiour Courts. They act in that Court after the same Manner, and claim the same Power, which the Court of Chancery hath in *England*.

*Sessions  
for Pleas of  
the Crown.*

The same Judge and Assistants, who keep the Court of Common-Pleas, do, every six Months, hold a Sessions of the Peace, and general Goal-Delivery for the whole Province; before whom are tried all Pleas of the Crown. They sit generally three or four Days at a Time, till all Business be done. This Court is attended with all its proper Officers, as the Queen's Attorney, Constables, Marshal, Goaler, &c.

The Governour signs the Warrant for Execution of Criminals, and hath Power, if he please, to grant a Reprieve, till their Lordships either pardon them, or signify their Pleasure to the contrary.

*Special  
Courts.*

For the Benefit of Merchants and others, who are going out of the Province, and cannot stay the common Methods of Proceeding at the ordinary Courts, upon Application made to the Chief Justice, he is by Law oblig'd immediately to call a Special Court, to determine their Affairs; so that Strangers  
have

have no just Cause given of complaining, that the Laws of this Colony have not made suitable Provision in their behalf.

Probats of Wills, and Letters of Administration, are granted by the Governour in Council, who is reckoned the Ordinary of the Place, and gives Marriage-Licences, which are left ready sign'd, with a Blank for the Names, in the Secretary's Office : But those who take them out, generally enter into Bonds, with sufficient Securities, that they have no Wife already, and that their intended Marriage is in all Respects legal.

All Writs and Precepts run in the Name of his Excellency the Palatine, and the rest of the true and absolute Lords Proprietors of *Carolina*. The Attorneys are licensed by the Chief Justice.

The Chief Justice's Commission is from the Lords Proprietors, and is usually during Pleasure.

Besides the Governour and Chief Justice, the Lords Proprietors appoint the Receiver of their Revenues, Surveyour General, Naval Officer, &c.

The Secretary's Business is to keep the publick Records of the Country, to take care that they be fairly laid up, to make and record all Patents for Land, to file the Certificates of Surveys, to keep a Register of all Deeds, Conveyances, Probats of Wills, and Letters of Admi-

Administration, to write Commissions for Officers civil and military.

The Receiver of the Lords Proprietors has the Charge of their Lordships Revenue, receives the Mony paid for the Sale, and Rents of Lands, all Fines in criminal Cases, and Escheats; out of which he pays Salaries to the Governour, Chief Justice, Queen's Attorney, and other incident Charges relating to the Support of the Government.

*Publick  
Revenues.*

The Treasurer for the Country is appointed by the House of Commons. He keeps all the publick Accounts, receives all Taxes, Duties, and Imposts, appointed by Acts of Assembly; out of which he pays all Sums of Mony, ordain'd to be paid by any Law of the Province, or any Order or Ordinance of Parliament, sign'd by the Governour and Speaker of the House of Commons. Once, during every Session of the Assembly, a Committee of the House of Commons is appointed to examine his Accounts, who generally make a strict Enquiry, compare every Article with his Vouchers, and then make Report of the whole to the House, who, if there be no just Objection, pass the Accounts, order them to be sign'd by the Speaker, and that is his *Quietus*. This frequent Examination of the publick Revenues and Disbursements, keeps us from being embarrass'd with tedious and intricate Accounts. For

For Defence of the Colony, our Laws oblige every Male Person from 16 to 60 Years of Age, to bear Arms, who are all under their proper Captains, Majors and Colonels, by whom they are duly exercis'd once in two Months. It is not here as in *England*, where an ordinary Mechanic thinks himself too good to be a Soldier. Every one among us is versed in Arms, from the Governour to the meanest Servant, and are all so far from thinking it below them, that most People take Delight in military Affairs, and think no body so fit to defend their Properties as themselves. We have the same Opinion of Arms as the *Romans*, and other free People, generally had, and believe them to be best intrusted with those who have the greatest Interest.

*Military  
Strength  
and Discipline.*

There are likewise enrolled in our Militia, a considerable Number of active, able, Negro Slaves; and the Law gives every one of those his Freedom, who in the Time of an Invasion, kills an Enemy; the publick making Satisfaction to his Master for the Damage sustained by the Slave's Manumission.

Besides these Forces, *English* Officers are appointed over the *Indians* with whom we are in Friendship, who are order'd, with the utmost Expedition, to draw

draw them down to the Sea-coast, upon the first News of an Allarm. This is reckon'd a very considerable Part of our Strength, for there being some thousands of these, who are hardy, active, and good Marksmen, excellent at an Ambuscade, and who are brought together with little or no Charge ; in all Probability, if the *French* or *Spaniards* should make any Attempt upon *Carolina*, they might have Reason to repent it.

*Arms.*

The Arms which every one is obliged to have, and bring into the Field, are a good Fusée, carrying a Bullet of about 18 to the Pound, a Cartridge-box, so waxt as to keep out all Water, with at least 16 Cartridges, a Sword, or Cutlass, Worm, Picker, spare Flints, &c.

The Inhabitants of *Carolina*, especially those born there, are dextrous and expert in the Use of Fire-Arms. If regular Troops excel in performing the Postures, this Militia is much superiour in making a true Shot. The Habit of Shooting so very well is acquir'd by the frequent Pursuit of Game in the Forests.

We have no regular Troops in *Carolina*, except a very few in the Fort, and Sentinels in several Places along the Coast. Upon any Allarm, there are proper Officers appointed to lead a cer-  
tain



tain Body of Militia into those Forts where they may be most useful. And as we have no regular Troops, for many Reasons we desire none. A Planter who keeps his Body fit for Service, by Action and a regular Life, is doubtless a better Soldier, upon Occasion, than a Company of raw Fellows raised in *England*, whose Spirits and Vigour are soon pall'd by an idle, effeminate Life, in a warm Climate. And the same Charges that would transport two or three Companies of regular Troops hither, to serve as Soldiers, would send the same Number of Men, and enable them to settle as Planters, who, by their Industry, would add to the Improvement and Trade of the Province, and be equally serviceable for its Defence.

Since the Beginning of this War we Frns. have exerted our selves very much in Defence of the Colony, having fortified *Charlestown* with strong and regular Works, and erected another Fort upon a Point of Land, at the Mouth of *Ashby* River, which commands the Channel so well, that Ships can't easily pass it, when compleatly finished, and furnished with large Guns. We have likewise been at great Expences in providing necessary Supplies of Arms and Ammunition.

Besides this, there have been undertaken several foreign Expeditions ; one a-  
C gainst

gainst *St. Augustine*, a Town and Garrison of the *Spaniards*, on the Coast of *Florida*, in the Latitude of 29 Degrees ; and others against the *Spaniards* and *Indians* of *Apalachia*. I shall not trouble you with a long Account of these Enterprises, but only tell you our Forces intirely broke and ruin'd the Strength of the *Spaniards* in *Florida*, destroy'd the whole Country, burnt the Towns, brought all the *Indians*, who were not kill'd or made Slaves, into our own Territories, so that there remains not now, so much as one Village with ten Houses in it, in all *Florida*, that is subject to the *Spaniards* ; nor have they any Houses or Cattle left, but such as they can protect by the Guns of their Castle of *St. Augustine*, that alone being now in their Hands, and which is continually infested by the perpetual Incursions of the *Indians*, subject to this Province.

These Expeditions have added very much to our Strength and Safety ; First, by reducing the *Spanish* Power in *Florida* so low, that they are altogether incapable of ever hurting us ; then by training our *Indian* Subjects in the Use of Arms, and Knowledge of War, which would be of great Service to us, in case of any Invasion from an Enemy ; and, what is yet more considerable, by drawing over to our Side, or destroying, all the *Indians*,

within 700 Miles of *Charlestown*. This makes it impracticable for any *European* Nation to settle on that Coast, otherwise than as Subjects to the Crown of *Great Britain* ; because we are capable of giving them such continual Molestation, by the Incursions of our Savages, that they could not easily subsist, or venture to make any Improvement.

The Charges of these Fortifications and Expeditions, though very necessary, were yet so considerable, that they created some Uneasiness, and the Assembly finding it was in vain to struggle with the Difficulty, by raising annual Taxes, which could not have been levied soon enough to answer the present Exigency, they concluded to stamp Bills of Credit, at first for about 6000 Pounds, and having had Experience of them, about 10000 Pounds more since.

*Exchequer  
Bills and  
Public  
Credit.*

By the Laws that establish the Bills of Credit, their Currency is secur'd. To proffer any Payment with them is a Tender in Law, so that if the Creditor refuse to take them, he loseth his Money, and the Debtor is discharg'd from the Minute of the Refusal. But we have no Instance of that Kind, the Funds upon which they are made being so good, that they pass in all Payments without any Demur or Dissatisfaction.

The House of Commons took extraordinary Care that the Credit of these public Bills should be well establish'd. They suffer'd none to be made by private Banks, not being willing to put it in their Power to injure the Public ; but fix'd them on such Foundations which nothing could destroy, but what, at the same Time, should ruin the whole Province ; that is, upon Acts of Assembly, appointing such Duties as were not to be taken off till the Bills of Credit were entirely cancell'd.

There never was yet found among us one Instance of counterfeiting these Bills, and all the Care imaginable has been taken to prevent it : For being first stamp'd with Blanks left for the Sums, they were brought into a Chamber adjoining to the House of Commons, where they were fill'd up, by a Committee of five, two Members of the Council, and three of the lower House, who, besides the Flourish and the Counter-part, usual in *England*, sign'd them with their Hands, and seal'd them with one common Seal ; so that whoever attempted to counterfeit, must, besides the indenting and intricate Flourish, imitate five several well known Hands, and a Seal, which could not remain long undiscover'd, since all these Bills are continually circulating thro' the Treasury.

After

After the Bills were numbred, indented, sign'd and seal'd, they were given to the Treasurer, together with a Schedule of all Debts due from the Public, which he immediately discharg'd with them. Three Commissioners are appointed by the Assembly to examine the Treasurer's Books weekly, and to see that such Bills, lying in his Hands, be cancell'd, which the necessary Expences of the Public do not require to be used.

Our Bills of Credit were at first made to run with 12 *per Cent.* Interest; but upon making the second Parcel, the Assembly was sensible of the great Inconvenience of that Method. For it not only made the Currency more difficult, by reason of the Endorsements, and computing the Times they had lain in the Treasury; but gave the Treasurer likewise an Opportunity of injuring the Public, by giving Credit for what Time he thought fit, as often as they came into his Hands. Besides, the Interest gave Encouragement to People to hoard them, which was a common Prejudice, by keeping so great a Part of the Cash from circulating in Trade. And lastly, this devouring Interest was such a constant Addition to the public Debt, that, if continued, it would have made it impossible to sink the Bills in any reasonable Time, unless by troublesome Taxes.

These Reasons made the Assembly Enact, That from that Time forward, the Bills of Credit should run to all Intents and Purposes as they had done, without any Interest at all. And we quickly found the Benefit of it. For this both eased the Public of a great Burthen, and the Bills circulated more in Trade, and with less Difficulty among the common People. The Assembly indeed, by this Act, expos'd themselves to the Censure of those who little regard the public, so long as their own private Interest is advanc'd; but they wisely consider'd, that to save the Public 2000 Pounds a Year was more to be regarded, than to gratifie the unreasonable Avarice of some particular Persons.

It is probable, there are very few Countries where public Credit is better preserved than with us, or where Paper-Cash circulates more smoothly. And this proceeds from every ones being satisfied of the Goodness of the Funds, and the Honour which the Assemblies have always taken Care to preserve, in discharging all just Demands upon the Public, together with the good Husbandry they have us'd in disposing of the public Money; Frugality being a Vertue very useful in large Governments, but absolutely necessary in small and poor ones.

Bills of Credit with us have never fallen lower than the intrinsic, nor can they well do so, upon those Principles whereon they are established.

There are at present no Taxes in *South Carolina*, either upon real or personal Estates: But the public Revenue arises from Duties laid upon all Spirits, Wines, and other Liquors; upon Slaves, Sugars, Molosses, Flower, Bisket, &c. upon all dry Goods imported, *3l. per Cent.* and *3d. per Skin* upon all Dear-skins exported. All these Duties together, may, at present, amount to about 4500 Pounds *per Ann.* out of which the yearly Disbursements are as follow.

To 10 Ministers of the Church of <i>England</i>	1000 <i>l.</i>
For finishing and repairing Fortifications	1000
For the Officers of Forts and Sentinels	600
To the Governour	200
For military Stores	300
Accidental Charges	400

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3500 *l.*

Which taken out of 4500 *l.* there remain yearly 1000 *l.* to cancel so many of the Bills of Credit.

This Computation is nigh the Truth this present Year; but the State of things is alterable, either by unexpected Demands upon the Public, or by the Increase of Trade, and consequently of the Revenue.

*Assessments.*

Assessments have seldom been us'd with us: When there are any, the Method is, for the Assembly to ascertain the Sum to be raised, and appoint Assessors, who shall lay it equally upon all real and personal Estates, throughout the Province. They appoint likewise Officers in every Precinct, who return to the Assessors, upon Oath, a Schedule both of the Persons and Estates, in their respective Divisions. All Persons who are assess'd have this Priviledge, That if they believe themselves tax'd for more than their due Proportion, they may swear to the real Value of their Estates, and so procure an Abatement of what they are over-rated.

*Coin.*

Besides Bills of Credit, the Money most common in this Province is *French Pistoles*, *Spanish* and *Arabian Gold*; which before the late Act, that regulates the Currency of Money in the *English Colonies*, pass'd at 6 s. and 3 d. a Penny-weight, and 3 d. every odd Grain: *Dutch and German Dollars*, and *Peruvian Pieces of Eight*, pass'd at 5 s. *Mexican Pieces of Eight*, of twelve Penny-weight, at 5 s. every Penny-weight above twelve to seventeen being  $3\frac{1}{2}$  d. more. We have likewise  $7\frac{1}{2}$  d. and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  d. Pieces of *Spanish Money*, commonly call'd *Royals*, and *Half-Royals*. There is little *English Money*, but what is, goes at 50 l. per Cent.



*Cent.* Advance, that is, a Crown at 7 *s.* and 6 *d.* a Guinea at 32 *s.* and 3 *d.* and so in proportion.

*South Carolina* was first settled about <sup>People.</sup> the Year 1667. The Penal Laws then in Force in *Great Britain*, contributing very considerably to send the first *English* Colonies hither. It has likewise had a large Addition of Inhabitants by the Revocation of the Edict of *Nants*, the *French* Refugees having found here a safe and pleasant Retreat, from the rigid Church Discipline of their Dragooning Apostles. They live in good Friendship with, and are belov'd by the *English*, who being sensible, that their Assistance has contributed not a little to improve the Country, have been ready to oblige them upon all Occasions, wherein it lay in their Power; as in passing general Laws of Naturalization, admitting them into all Posts Civil and Military. And this good Understanding not only continues, but increases daily, by Cohabitation and Intermarriages.

The *European* Inhabitants of this Province are, for the most part, People of Sobriety and Industry; which, together with the Advantage of the Climate, enable them to live in great Affluence of most things necessary for Life. I may venture to say, that this Country is much better improv'd than any other *English* Colony

Colony on the Continent of *America*, in proportion to the Length of Time, and Stock of *English* Money originally expended in Settling it.

No People are more hospitable, generous, and willing to do good Offices to Strangers; every one is ready to entertain them freely, with the best they have. That Moroseness and Sullenness of Temper, so common in other Places, is very rare among us.

Tho' we are so happily situated, that no body is obliged to beg or want Food, yet the Charity of the Inhabitants is very remarkable, in taking suitable Methods to prevent any Persons falling into extream Necessity. For Commissioners are appointed by Act of Assembly, to take Care of the Poor, and necessary Helps are settled for that End; tho' there are few Occasions to make use of this Provision, unless towards the Widows or Children of such Strangers, who die before they are comfortably settled. And even in these Cases so many People are inclined to support them, that the Commissioners are not often troubled; their Neighbours of Substance generally taking one or two such unfortunate Orphans, whom they not only educate, and provide for, with a great deal of Humanity, during their Minority, but likewise are very generous and liberal in assisting them,

them, after they are grown up, to settle themselves in the World. For People here are not yet arrived to that sordid Temper and partial Fondness, to breed their own Children to the Height of Delicacy, and suffer others of the same Blood and Nation, to be destitute of the common Necessaries of Life.

Those born of *European* Parents, are for the most part very temperate, and have generally an Aversion to excessive Drinking. I cannot at present call to mind above two or three in the whole Province, addicted to that Vice. They are likewise ingenious, of good Capacities, and quick Apprehensions, and have Heads excellently well turn'd for mechanical Works and Inventions; with little or no teaching, they'll make Houses, Mills, Sloops, Boats, and the like.

All People in this Colony are either Planters, Traders, Artisans, *Indian* Subjects, or Negroe Slaves. A Planter is a common Denomination for those who live by their own and their Servants Industry, improve their Estates, follow Tillage or Grasing, and make those Commodities which are transported from hence to *Great Britain*, and other Places.

It is not necessary to insert the exact Numbers of the several Inhabitants; but the Proportions they bear to one another

nother, and each to the whole, are as follows,

$$\text{Whites} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Planters} \\ \text{Traders} \\ \text{Artifans} \end{array} \right\} \text{as } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 8 \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \frac{1}{2} \\ 2 \end{array} \right\} \text{to } 12.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{All the Whites} \\ \text{Indian Subjects} \\ \text{Negro Slaves} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{to the whole, as } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 12 \\ 66 \\ 22 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 8 \\ 100 \\ 0 \end{array}$$

*Servants.*

There are very few *European* Servants, and these are treated with as much Gentleness as any where in the World, being seldom put to other Employments than to exercise some Trade, oversee a Plantation, or to carry Goods to Market; the greatest Drudgeries being perform'd by Slaves. And upon the Expiration of four Years, they who came Servants, are as free in all Respects, and as much entitled to the Privileges of the Country, as any other Inhabitants whatsoever.

*Laws of  
Naturali-  
zation.*

By many Acts of the General Assembly, all foreign Protestants, of what Denomination soever, are made Denizens within three Months after their Arrival, and no other Qualification requir'd than to go before some Magistrate, and take the Oath of Allegiance, by which the Person is naturalized to all Intents and Purposes.

It must needs be very acceptable to all *Religion.* good Christians, to hear that Religion and Piety have increas'd and flourished among us, in good Measure ; the Labours of some reverend Persons, who have exerted themselves in the Service of their great Master, having been bless'd with very desirable Success ; which besides the Advantages in respect to a future Life, has also greatly contributed to the Good of the Society, by refining those Dispositions which were otherwise rude and untractable.

There are eight Ministers of the Church of *England*, three *French* Protestant Congregations, whereof two of their Ministers are lately profelyted to the Church, five of *British* Presbyterians, one of Anabaptists, and a small one of Quakers. The Ministers of the Church of *England* have each 100 *l. per Annum*, paid out of the public Treasury, besides Contributions and Perquisites from their Parishioners. The other Ministers are maintain'd by voluntary Subscriptions. The Proportions that the several Parties in Religion do bear to the whole, and each other, is at present as follows,

Episcopal Party	} to the whole, as	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	} 10 10.
Presbyterians, including those <i>French</i> who retain their own Discipline		4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Anabaptists		1	
Quakers		0 $\frac{1}{4}$	
		<hr/> 10	

*Lands.*

Nothing can be more reasonable than the Price of Lands in this Province ; we must do their Lordships the Justice to say, they have always, in that Respect, dealt with great Favour and Gentleness. The first twenty Years they got little or nothing at all, and since not much more than is barely sufficient to support the necessary Charges of the Government. By this Conduct the Proprietors have advanced the Interest of the *English* Nation to their own present Loss. For if their Lordships had not remitted many Years Arrears of Rent, if they had not waited a great while for Money due for Lands, and suffer'd the People to supply themselves with Slaves, before they paid it ; if they had not sold their Lands, and established their Rents, at so moderate a Rate ; the Country had not been in Circumstances to purchase all the Effects brought yearly from *Great Britain*, in 22 Sail of Ships, as they now do.

The

The Method has hitherto often been for Men to settle themselves upon a Piece of Ground, improve it, build, raise, stock, plant Orchards, and make such Commodities, which being sold, procur'd them Slaves, Horses, Household-Goods, and the like Conveniencies; and after this was done, in seven or eight Years they might begin to think it Time to pay the Lords something for their Land.

Free and common Soccage is the *Tenure of* *Lands.* Tenure by which Lands are held, a small Quit-Rent being paid annually to the Proprietors, as Lords of the Fee, in lieu of all Services, Perquisites, and Demands whatsoever. There are two Ways of taking out Titles; one is by Purchase, at twenty Pounds a thousand Acres, paid to the Lords Reciever, the Grant whereof reserves to their Lordships an annual Rent of a Shilling for each hundred Acres; the other is without any Purchase-money paid down, but by taking out a Patent, upon Condition to pay yearly to the Lords Proprietors a Penny for each Acre. Every one is at Liberty to choose which of these Methods he will, tho' the former, being much preferable, is most common.

The Tenour of the Grants of Lands from the Proprietors, runs to this Purpose: First their Lordships Title by

a Charter from K. *Charles II.* is recited ; then, in Consideration of so much Money there acknowledg'd to be received, they sell, alienate, and make over unto *A. B.* his Heirs, &c. a Plantation, containing so many Acres of Land, situate and lying in such a County, and having such a Form and Marks, as appear by the Plan of it annex'd, he or they paying for the same, the Sum of one Shilling yearly, for each hundred Acres, in lieu of all Dues or Demands whatsoever.

When a Person would take up Land, (as we term it) he first views the Place, and satisfies himself that no other has any Property there, and then goes to the Secretary, and takes out a Warrant for the Quantity he desires. Warrants ready sign'd by the Governour are left with proper Blanks in the Secretaries Office, and directed to the Surveyor, empowering him to measure and lay out such a Number of Acres for such a Person, and to return a Plan and Certificate thereof into the Secretaries Office. Then the Secretary files the Certificates, and writes a Grant (the Form whereof is settled by Act of Assembly) which he annexes to the Plan, and carries it next Council Day, into the Council, to be sign'd by the Governour, and such of the Council as are Trustees for the Sale of Lands, and sealed with the publick Seal of the Colony. If the  
Grant



**Grant** is to be for Lands purchas'd, a **Record** of the Receipt of the Purchase-Money by the Lords Reciever, must be produced, as a Warrant for signing the Patent.

If any one designs to make a Plantation, <sup>*Method and Charges of Settling.*</sup> in this Province, out of the Woods, the first thing to be done is, after having cutt down a few Trees, to split Palissades, or Clapboards, and therewith make small Houses or Huts, to shelter the Slaves. After that, whilst some Servants are clearing the Land, others are to be employed in squaring or sawing Wall-plats, Posts, Rafters, Boards and Shingles, for a small House for the Family, which usually serves for a Kitchin afterwards, when they are in better Circumstances to build a larger. During the Time of this Preparation, the Master Overseer, or white Servants, go every Evening to the next Neighbour's House, where they are lodg'd and entertain'd kindly, without any Charges. And if the Person have any Wife or Children, they are commonly left in some Friend's House, till a suitable dwelling Place and Conveniencies are provided, fit for them to live decently.

The properest Time to begin a Settlement is in *September*, or, at farthest, before the first of *December*. The Time between that and the first of *March* is <sup>*Time of Settling.*</sup> spent

spent in cutting down and burning the Trees, out of the Ground, design'd to be sowed that Year, splitting Rails, and making Fences round the Corn Ground, and Pasture. The smallest Computation usually made is, that each labouring Person will, in this Time, clear three Acres fit for Sowing.

In the second Fall, or Winter, after a Plantation is settled, they make Gardens, plant Orchards, build Barns, and other convenient Houses. The third or fourth Winter, Persons of any Substance provide Brick, Lime, or other Materials, in order to build a good House. The Lime here is all made of Oyster-shells, burnt with Wood; of these there is great Plenty lying in and by all Creeks and Rivers, in great Heaps or Beds, where large Boats are loaden at low Water.

Our Cows graze in the Forests, and the Calves being separated from them, and kept in Pastures, fenced in, they return home at Night to suckle them. They are first milk'd, then shut up in a Fold all Night, milk'd again in the Morning, and then turn'd out into the Woods. Hogs rove several Miles over the Forests, eating such Nuts and Ground-Roots as they can find; but having a Shelter made at home to keep them warm, and something given them to eat, they generally return every Evening.

People who design to make their Fortunes in new Countries, should consider beforehand, what Method, or Course of Life, they purpose to follow, when they arrive there; and not flatter themselves with vain Fancies, as if Riches were to be got without Industry, or taking suitable Methods to attain them. 'Tis Encouragement sufficient for a rational Man to know, that when due Means are us'd, they seldom fail of obtaining the End. In this Province as little will serve to put a Person into a Way of living comfortably, as in any Place whatever, and perhaps less. That you and your Friends may be thoroughly convinc'd of this, without being led into any Mistakes, I shall here first insert an Account of what is necessary to settle a Planter to live with Comfort and Decency; and next, a List of what is sufficient to settle an Estate of 300 *l.* a Year, from which you may proportion other Conditions of Life as you please.

In order to live comfortably, after a Man's own and Family's Passage is paid, and Cloaths bought for the first Year or two, he must have,

Charges of Settling an Estate of about 30 l. a Year.	2 Negro Slaves, 40 l. each	80 l.
	4 Cows and Calves, 1 l. 5 s. each	5
	4 Sows, 15 s. each. A Canoe 3 l.	6
	A Steel Mill, or Pair of Querns,	3
	Axes, Hoes, Wedges, Hand-saws,	} 2
	Hammers, and other Tools,	
	200 Acres of Land 4 l. Survey	} 6
	and other Charges 2 l.	
	A small House for the first Year or	} 8
	two,	
	Corn, Pease, Beef, Pork, &c. for	} 14
	the first Year,	
	Expences and Contingencies,	26
		<hr/> 150 l.

This Calculation is made in the Money of the Province, which is just 100 l. Sterling.

The Things mention'd here are of Necessity to one who would settle with any tollerable Decency. And from this small Beginning, by moderate Industry, accompanied with the Blessing of Heaven, a Man may get a competent Estate, and live very handsomly. But there are many who settle without any Slaves at all, but labour themselves.

Here follows an Account of what is necessary to settle an Estate of 300 l. *per Annum*, with the Value of the Particulars, as they are most commonly sold there.

30 Negroes, 15 Men and 15 Women, 40 l. each,	1200	Charges of Sterling 300 l. per Annum.
20 Cows and Calves, 1 l. 5 s. each	25	
2 Mares, 1 Stone-horse, 10 l. each,	36	
6 Sows and a Boar 6 l.		
1000 Acres of Land, 20 l. Survey	27	
and other necessary Charges 7 l.		
A large Periagoe 20 l. a small	26	
Canoe 2 l. a Steel Mill 4 l.		
10 Ewes and a Ram 7 l. 3 dozen	13	
Axes 6 l.		
Hoes, Hatchets, Broad Axes, Nails,	23	
Saws, Hammers, Wedges,		
Maul Rings, a Froe, and other		
necessary Tools.		
Ploughs, Carts, with their Chains	10	
and Irons,		
A small House for the first Year	20	
or two, afterwards a Kitchen.		
300 Bushels of <i>Indian</i> Corn and	50	
Pease, at 2 s. 6 d. per Bushel,		
with some Beef, Pork, &c.		
for the first Years Provision,		
Expences and Contingencies,	70	
Total 1500 l.		

This Sum of *Carolina* Money being reduc'd to Sterling, makes 1000 l.

The 30 Negroes begining to work in *September* or *October*, will clear 90 Acres of Land, plant and hoe it; half of which, that is 45 Acres, sowed with Rice, will, after the common Computation, yield

1000 Weight an Acre, which sold at 15 s. a hundred, the middle Price, amounts to 337 l. 10 s. The other 45 Acres are to be sowed with *Indian Corn*, Pease, Pumpions, Potatoes, Melons, and other Eatables, for the Use of the Family.

I am so far from exceeding due Bounds in this Calculation, that I don't by much come up to what I know is annually done by many. This shews the very great Difference between purchasing an Estate of Land in *England*, and settling one in this Province. For the Sum of 1000 l. laid out in *England*, at 20 Years Purchase, will buy but 50 l. a Year, and here it settles 337 l. 10 s. *per Ann.* Money of this Colony, which is 225 l. Sterling, besides maintaining a House in great Plenty, with most Sorts of Provisions necessary for Life. And to give the larger Allowance, I have not inserted the Profit to be made in remitting the 1000 l. in proper Goods, but have reckon'd it as brought hither in Specie.

As for those who have no Substance to bring with them, they are either Labourers or Tradesmen, for whose Satisfaction I shall insert the usual Wages and Prices of Labour.

		s.	d.	Price of Labour.
A Tailor	} hath per Diem	05	: 00	
A Shoee-maker		02	: 06	
A Smith		07	: 06	
A Weaver		03	: 00	
A Bricklayer		06	: 00	
A Cowper		04	: 00	

A Carpenter and Joiner have from 3 to 5 s.

A Day-labourer from 1 s. 3 d. to 2 s. with Lodging and Diet.

Those who oversee Plantations *per Ann.* from 15 to 40 l.  
Such as are employ'd to trade with the *Indians* from 20 to 100 l.

The best Time for *Europeans* to arrive here, in respect to Health, is *September*; for then they have eight Months moderate Weather, before the Heat comes, in which Time the Climate will become agreeable. *Proper Season of coming hither.*

If a considerable Number of People should form a Design of coming hither, to settle in a Community or Neighbourhood, it would be proper to send Agents beforehand, to choose convenient Lands, and purchase Corn, and other Necessaries. And if these made a common Plantation, at the Charges of a Joint-Stock, a Year or two before the Arrival of the others, about the Middle of the Place where they design'd a Settlement, and stock'd it with 20 Negroes, Cows, Hogs, &c. it would be very useful to shelter and receive their Friends upon their first Landing; the Sick, likewise, might be there taken Care of,

and the poor supplied with Corn for their first Year's Provision ; of all which Accounts might be kept, and Payments made, when they that received it grew able.

This Country, perhaps, may not abound so much with those gay and noisy Amusements, which generally the great and rich affect ; but for such who have experienc'd the Frowns of Fortune, and have yet something left to make a handsome Retreat from the World ; for those who affect Solitude, Contemplation, Gardening, Groves, Woods, and the like innocent Delights of plain simple Nature, and who, with a small Fortune, would provide some competent fix'd Settlement for themselves and Children ; there can scarce any Place in the *British* Dominions be found, that will better answer their Expectation. As there are no Beggars among us, so we cannot pretend there are any vastly rich, few Estates exceeding 1000 or 1200 *l.* a Year, and from thence gradually down to 30 *l.* Most of us enjoy that State of Life which many People reckon the happiest, a moderate Subsistence, without the Vexation of Dependance.

*Advantage of this Province to Great Britain.* When I consider of what Importance this Colony may be in time to the *British* Nation, the great Quantities of their Manufactures it might take off, and the Variety



**Variety of Commodities** which it is capable of producing, to make suitable Returns ; I am perfectly surpris'd there should not be the least Care taken to encrease the Number of its Inhabitants. If the small Number here at present employs two and twenty Sail of *English* Ships, besides sixty smaller Vessels from other Parts ; to what Height may the Trade be brought, if the People were fifty times the Number they are now, which the Country would easily contain ?

The Scituation of this Province is such as not to interfere with *England*, in any Branches of its Manufacture ; there is no Money requir'd to be sent hither ; it is capable of producing many Commodities, which are now brought from other Nations, by Money exported from *England*. The Government may always regulate the Trade as they please, which they cannot do in foreign Dominions, but by Treaty and Consent.

*South Carolina* may be made useful to *Great Britain*, if the Lords Commissioners of Trade, would please to concert Measures for sending hither all, or at least some of the most necessary Commodities which the Country is capable of producing. For which End, it might not be amiss to consult the Growth and Product of such Countries, as lie in or near the same Latitude, and from Correspondents there,

there, as Consuls or Merchants, to get Seeds of each Kind well preserv'd, and as soon as possible remit them to *Carolina*; such, for instance, as Almonds, Dates, Olives of several Kinds, Coffee, Tea, great Variety of Grape-Stones, all Sorts of Drugs from *Barbary*, *Persia*, *Egypt*, *Syria*, &c. Persons might likewise be sent over, who are perfectly skill'd in making Potash, and others expert in framing mechanical Engines, as Saw-mills to go with the Wind, and the like.

Moreover, 'tis to be wish'd, that upon the Conclusion of this War, the Government would erect a Fund for transporting annually hither, for some Years, 100 Families, of the poorer Sort of People, suppose but of three Persons, one with another, either of their own Nation or Foreigners, and furnish them with Necessaries to help them in Settling, and for their Support the first Year; which would amount to about 20 *l.* Sterling a Head. That the Kingdom would soon find its Account in this, I shall endeavour to demonstrate, by computing what Advantage 'twould receive in 20 Years, by sending 100 Families, or 300 Persons, whereof we will suppose but 100 are Men. I shall not here proceed in that extravagant Manner, usual with some in Calculations of this Kind, but observe such a Medium as must be granted

ed to be very moderate, by all who consider the Matter. Wherefore, to give yet the greater Allowance, I will suppose for the present, that white Women and Children are of no Advantage, (tho' 'tis not altogether so) and only reckon Men fit to Labour, and the Slaves of both Sexes.

I consider, then, no other Advantage the first seven Years, but that each Family hath purchas'd four Slaves; and suppose of themselves to be diminish'd by Death ten in a hundred, so that at the End of seven Years, the Account will stand thus :

White Men	90
Slaves of both Sexes	360
	<hr/>
Labouring People	450

The lowest Computation usually made is, that each labouring Person here does, one with another, add 5 <i>l.</i> yearly to the Wealth of Great Britain, which, in the whole, is per Annum,	<div> <div>5</div> <hr/> <div>2250<i>l.</i></div> </div>
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About the twentieth Year there will be an Addition both to the Whites and Slaves, by Propagation and Purchase, of about fifty in the hundred; wherefore the

the Account of the yearly Advantage to  
*Great Britain*, will then stand thus:

White Men	135
Slaves of both Sexes	540
	<hr/>
Labouring People	675
	5
These at 5 <i>l.</i> each per <i>Annum</i> ,	} 3375 <i>l.</i>
will, in the whole, yield to	
<i>Great Britain</i> the annual Sum	
of	

At the End of the first seven Years,  
the Profit of the Year ensuing has been  
computed at 2250 *l.*  
In the 20th Year at 3375

Which together make 5625

And half being taken for  
a Medium of the annual  
Advantage, is } 2812 *l.* 10 *s.*  
This multiplied by the  
Number of Years from } 13  
7 to 20, *viz.* 13.

Amounts to 36562 *l.* 10 *s.*  
Advantage in the whole 20 Years.

Tho' the Value of what such a Settle-  
ment may be afterwards worth cannot  
well be computed, yet to make some  
small

small Estimate, I shall suppose the afore-  
said 300 Persons, their Slaves, improv'd  
Lands and Descendants, to be worth to  
the *British* Nation, only after the com-  
mon Value of Estates in Land, at 20  
Years Purchase.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>
Yearly Value the 20th Year	3375	: 00
	20	
<hr/>		
Real Value at 20 Years	67500	: 00
Purchase		
Advantage of the whole	36562	: 10
first 20 Years		
<hr/>		
Total	104062	: 10

This certainly is Profit sufficient to en-  
courage them to lay out 6000 Pounds,  
and that not in Money, but in Freight,  
Cloaths, Tools, and other Necessaries,  
which is no great Loss to the Kingdom  
in general, only a Charge to the Govern-  
ment.

Having calculated the Benefit accruing  
to the *British* Nation, for laying out  
6000 Pounds, to be at the End of 20  
Years 36562 Pounds, 10 Shillings, in  
Money already received, and a real E-  
state settled, worth at least 67500 Pounds,  
I shall now compute what Advantage  
the Proprietors will make, which the  
first seven Years is nothing.

At

At the End of 7 Years      90 Families.  
 On the 20th Year      135

---

Together      225

---

Half of which being taken }  
 for a Medium is      112

I suppose then in the 13th Year, which  
 is the Medium between 7 and 20, every  
 Family buys      400 Acres of Land

---

112 Families

400

---

44800 Acres.

These 44800 Acres, at 20 l. }  
 a Thousand, come to      896 : 00

The Yearly Rents at 20 s. }  
 1000 Acres, for 7 Years, }  
*viz.* from the 13th to the } 313 : 12  
 20th Year

---

The Lords have receiv'd }  
 at the End of twenty } 1209 : 12  
 Years

The real Value of these 44800 }  
 Acres, yielding 44 l. 16 s. }  
*per Ann.* at 20 Years Pur- } 896 : 00  
 chase, comes to

---

The whole      2105 : 12

Sub.

Subtract a fourth Part for	
Loss, Expences in recei-	
ving, and the necessary	
Charges of the Govern-	1579 : 04
ment, there will then re-	
main	

This compared with the Profit already computed to redound to the Kingdom, is almost the sixty sixth Part thereof, and just that Proportion of Charges, according to the strict Rules of Justice, the Lords Proprietors of *Carolina* should allow for carrying on a Design of transporting People, and rendering the Country more useful and profitable to the *British* Nation than it is at present.

Thus, Sir, I have endeavour'd, in as few Words as I could, to acquaint you with what I think is most requisite for you to know, relating to this Province. I might easily have swell'd my Letter to a regular Treatise, but fearing to be tedious, have left many Things untouch'd, and could not well say less, without falling short in giving you that Satisfaction you desire, and which it will always be my Ambition you should receive from me, in whatever Demands you are pleas'd to lay upon,

S I R,

Your, &c.

Charlestown,  
June 1, 1719.

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